

78-80

W. Bridge St

## HENRY HOFFMASTER

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We are now receiving for the spring trade Staple and Fancy Goods in every department. We are crowded for room and the best way to make it is to offer such Bargains that send the goods OUT WITH A RUSH.

## HOSIERY DEPARTMENT.

- 72 dozen Ladies' regular made Fast Black Hose, imported from Chemnitz, Saxony, at 15c, or 7 pair for.....\$1.00
- 36 dozen Ladies' fast black and russet colors, 35c quality, at..... 25c
- 36 dozen Ladies' fast black, very fine quality, 50c quality, at..... 35c
- 72 dozen Misses' fast black and ribbed Hose, sizes 5 to 9½, (always sold these for 10 to 18c a pr.) all sizes at..... 10c
- 72 dozen Misses' fast black, regular made ribbed Hose, sizes 5 to 8, worth 25c. at..... 15c
- 72 dozen Boys' heavy ribbed seamless Hose, sizes 7 to 9½, worth 35c (it will require a very energetic boy to wear them out), at..... 21c
- 36 dozen Men's regular made fast black Saxony Hose at 15c a pair, or 7 pair for.....\$1.00

## BARGAINS IN

## TABLE LINENS AND TOWELS

- 100 dozen Huck, Damask and Turkish Towels. Will name a few of them.
- 20x44 Huck..... 10c
- 16x35 Damask..... 14c
- 16x35 Damask..... 12½c
- Linen Napkins..... 4c
- Dinner Napkins..... 12½c

## DOMESTICS.

- We offer 2 cases best Standard Prints, worth 7c, at. 5c
- Two bales brown Muslin, worth 6¼c, at..... 5c
- 28-inch Wool Brocades, worth 20c, at..... 15c
- 36-inch Wool Chamelions, worth 35c, at..... 25c
- 36 to 46-inch all wool Novelties, colored and blacks.
- 3 cases Wash Goods, all newest designs.
- 1 case White Goods, all newest designs.
- 1 case fine Scotch Ginghams, worth 25c, at..... 15c

Nottingham Lace Curtains!

Chenille Curtains!

Chenille Portieres!

- Felt and Opaque Curtains, with fixtures complete, all widths and qualities, plain and decorated, lates shades, with patent extension rollers..... 25c AND UP
- Five-foot Curtain Poles, with trimming complete... 19c

## BASEMENT FLOOR.

- 100 pcs Staffordshire Dinner Set, worth \$12, at... \$ 6.84
- 100 pcs Gilt and Decorated Dinner Set, worth \$15. 11.00

## OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT.

Manhattan Island was purchased from the Indians for \$25.00. This sum, compounded at 6 per cent, will exceed its present value of real and personal property nearly \$2,000,000; the difference in price we charge you from what you pay for same goods elsewhere will make you proportionately rich.

We offer the well-known Lindner Shoe Company of Carlisle, Pa.

- Ladies' machine sewed, plain and tipped, at.....\$2.16  
You pay our competitors \$2.50.
- Ladies' hand turned, plain and tipped, at..... 2.50  
You pay our competitors \$3.00.
- Ladies' hand turned, plain and tipped, at..... 2.89  
You pay our competitors \$4.00.
- Ladies' hand turned, patent leather quarters, at.... 3.50  
You pay our competitors \$5.00.
- Misses' patent leather tipped, 11 to 2, at..... 1.63  
You pay our competitors \$2.00.
- Children's patent leather tipped, 8 to 11, at..... 1.19  
You pay our competitors \$1.50.
- Infants' plain, 3 to 5, at..... .48
- Other makes of reliable Shoes at equally low prices.

- White Quilts..... 68c
- Bates Quilts..... 98c
- Marseilles Quilts..... \$1.25 AND UP

## HENRY HOFFMASTER

## WANTED TO GET EVEN

Fielding Goes to a Big Dry Goods Store to Make a Kick.

## BUT IS NEATLY DONE UP

While He Is Getting Back \$3.02 Change Due Maude, She Spent That Sum and His Balance.

In every one of us there survives a trace of the old chivalric feeling, an inheritance from the days when hard-hitting heavyweights of the table round went forth to redoubtable fair ladies to secure upon second-rate catiffs in the one hundred and eighty-pound class. This knightly sentiment has come down to me from some medieval-plated medieval ancestor, and when Maude told me how she had been defrauded of three dollars and two cents in a New York dry goods store, through the machinations of a floor-walker, I immediately asked how big he was.

"He is a little monkey," said Maude, "and he wears patent leather shoes in the daytime."

"Now, like that," said I, "how my natural food. We will get over there tomorrow forenoon, and we will have that floor-walker fried in a Maryland fry-bunch."

The details of this gross outrage, as I obtained them from Maude, were as follows—at least, they were sometimes that way and sometimes different, as would happen in the case of any woman telling a story three or four hundred times.

they were plenty long enough, but so small around the instep that you couldn't get them onto a lady's foot, and she thought it was a shame that people should be allowed to sell such goods. Why, only the other day—

"Maude," said I, "will you kindly bite off that introduction and tell the how they got your money?"

It appeared that she had agreed to take the stockings, and the salesgirl had prepared to give them to the cash girl when Maude discovered another pair of stockings at the same price, but they might be a little better, and perhaps not so good, so she had decided to take one pair of each, and the salesgirl had been disagreeable about it, and had said something to another salesgirl which Maude couldn't hear—a very impudent thing to do, and it's a wonder that proprietors of stores permit it—but Maude had insisted on being told what the girl had said, and the girl at last had confessed that it was this: "The parting in the back of Sandy McDougall's hair runs down behind his shirt collar." Mr. McDougall, it appeared, was another floor-walker, and not the one who had subsequently defrauded Maude; but, all the same, it was a wicked falsehood that the girl told for Maude was sure that her remark referred to herself (Maude) and not to Mr. McDougall's hair, which was very handsome hair, and the man himself looked like a gentleman, and probably if he had been around later they never could have treated her so. However, the girl had insisted that what she said was: "The parting in the back—"

"Maude," said I, "what has McDougall's back hair to do with your losing three dollars and two cents?"

Well, it hadn't anything to do with it, but Maude thought it was a shame for girls to act that way, when they might as well be ladylike and make everybody respect them, instead of acting like a really bloodthirsty person to hear about them with any degree of pleasure. But she walked up toward the last of it, and began to tell me the story over again. Her sufferings this time were even more terrible than they had been by the previous narration.

Her precautions against any error regarding the denomination of that bill were more elaborate, and her report to the salesgirl more damaging to the latter's sentiments, character and prospects. I, in my turn, secured a little repose during this recital, and dreamed that I was behind a counter selling the mingled corpses of floorwalkers to ladies whose change was never right.

On the following day we went over to Fenway's store. I had decided just what to do, and had prepared many biting sarcasms, any one of which should have been enough to drive a sensitive man out of business. Just within the door we met a very polite young fellow, and when he turned his back I saw that his name was McDougall. I asked him in a stern, reproaching tone to direct me to the office. I said that my business was too serious to intrust to floorwalkers. That, I thought, would make him feel the agreeable. But he only said: "Certainly, sir, quite right. Office up two flights. Take the elevator. We have two very nice elevators and should be happy to have you take them both. Right this way, sir."

We ascended to the office on the third floor, and at the door we were met by a very courteous old gentleman, who said what we required.



WE WERE MET AT THE DOOR.

"I have come," said I, "to make a complaint."

"Yes, sir, certainly," he replied. "I wish I could accommodate you, but I am not the superintendent. He is on the first floor. If there is anything I can do, why—"

I intimated to him that I had come to kick the head off somebody, and he replied that he was sorry that he was not the proper person. It would be much more satisfactory to me, he was sure, to kick Mr. Jackson's head off. Mr. Jackson was the superintendent, and he always aimed to please. Should he show us to the elevator? He would be only too happy to do so.

"Maude," I said, as we went down, "how did you manage to get yourself insulted in this place?"

She did not reply, for she was looking at a hole in a bundle which another lady was carrying and trying to guess what was inside of it. By her expression I judged that she thought the lady discourteous because she hadn't made a larger rent in the paper. We reached the lower floor and struggled for a few minutes with the crowd of women who, with faces wearing the calm but firm expression of a six-inch rifled cannon, were waiting over one another to their respective destinations. This was the sort of spectacle I needed. An iron hardness came to my soul. Mrs. Jackson, thought I, is no better than a widow at this moment. I accosted a floor-walker.

"Where is that man, Jackson?" said I, coldly. "I want his car for a moment."

"Yes, sir, certainly," said he. "Wait right here a moment, please."

He continued, addressing one of the cash girls, "tell Mr. Jackson that there's a gentleman in the dress goods department who wants one of his ears."

Mr. Jackson appeared with a promptness that amazed me. I had been led to believe by Maude's story that it took hours to get a glimpse of anybody at Fenway's.

"Sir," said I, fixing my better eye on Mr. Jackson, "my wife had a most painful experience here yesterday, and somebody must suffer for it."

"Yes, sir, certainly," said he, "somebody must suffer for it. Can I do anything more for you?"

"She was defrauded of three dollars and two cents," I continued, "by a young woman who sells stockings, and she abetted by a man who wears patent leather shoes in the daytime. This must be investigated, and my wife must get her money."

"I will investigate it at once," said he, "and bring back the money."

"I think you are much to blame," I began, "and—"

"We are much to blame," said he. "It is an outrage," said I.

"It certainly is an outrage," he replied.

Now, I am as good a kisser as breathes the vital air, but I cannot go on kissing indefinitely against a man who agrees with me at every point. I paused to think of something so offensive that he could not possibly ignore it and leave himself any standing among civilized Christians.

"Perhaps the lady would like to look at some of our dress goods while I am gone," said he, indicating a counter behind me. Maude was already looking at them.

"Oh, see that lovely Henrietta cloth," she exclaimed. "It is just what I need."

It is remarkable how, in the matter of dress goods, even an educated woman will confuse her desires with her necessities. However, the presentation of a purely metaphysical point like that would not tear Maude away from the Henrietta cloth. She had sworn to me that she would never buy in that store again; but what woman will not be forgiven at the rate of five cents reduction per yard? She examined all the lovely Henrietta cloth while Jackson was gone, and then bought eight yards and a half of something else. Then we closed in on the counter where they sold various matters which go into a dress and produce no visible effect. We paid two dollars and seventy-five cents for them. Afterward we attempted to force our way to the button counter, but lost four yards on the first down. We then tried the wedge, with no gain, after which I fell back for a "kick," but Maude went around the end and got across the line. She bought more buttons than she had sewed onto my raiment in all her happy married life, and they all for one dress. Then we went upstairs to look at some hats.

I kept reminding Maude that we had agreed to wait for the superintendent, but she said: "Never mind; let him wait for us; it won't hurt him." So we bought a hat with a bird of Paradise fast sitting on the front of it and looking very tired.

By and by we came downstairs and drifted around looking for Mr. Jackson. We found him beside the stocking counter talking to a salesgirl whose countenance was covered with a supernatural bloom.

"It is very annoying," said he, "I can't see how it could have happened. It must have been very painful to the lady's feelings."

And so he ran on, saying everything just about one second before I could think of it. Finally I got a chance to say a word or two, after which Maude, replying to a few courteous questions by the superintendent, contradicted me on all points. I then apologized to Mr. Jackson for making a fool of myself, and asked him as a favor to allow my wife to exchange the ninety-nine cent stockings. He thereupon showed some at \$1.74, and she bought four pairs, thus consuming the money which the obliging Mr. Jackson had returned to her with the exception of two cents. With that sum pressed against the palm of my hand I made my exit from the store; and if I ever consent to visit such a place again for a similar purpose may my attenuated legs refuse their office.

"Howdy," whispered Maude, "would you let me have a little change just to pay my carfare?"

I had nothing but the two cents. She had spent my all while we were waiting for Mr. Jackson. We walked nine blocks to Jack Hyland's office, where I borrowed half a dollar to get us home.

HOWARD FIELDING.

## OUR

\$3.50 and \$4.00 Hats ("The Roelof") are equal to any \$5.00 hat

## IN POINT OF QUALITY

—AND—

## MUCH HANDSOMER IN STYLE.

You will frankly admit this upon seeing them.

## BORN, "the Hatter."

Why Not Use the Best?

Our "Sunlight" Fancy Patent Floor is unsurpassed for whiteness, purity and strength. If your local dealer does not keep it, write direct to us for price of a barrel delivered at your railroad station.

THE WALSH-DE ROO MILLING CO., Holland, Mich.

EVAN WHITE & CO., 612 North W. Agents for Grand Rapids.

GRAND RAPIDS ELECTRIC CO.

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SYSTEMS IN WESTERN MICHIGAN

ALL KINDS OF ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION, SUPPLIES & REPAIRS.

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Live or spent steam, hot blast, apparatus for heating, forcing, hot water, steam, and other uses. Improved construction, iron and steel, building, etc.